11 Facts About

JESUS & His Mother MARY



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11 Facts About JESUS & His Mother MARY

in the Biblical & Islamic Teachings

Compiled by Majed S. Al-Rassi

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the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

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No Doubt This Life is an Examination Which needs your Full Consideration as to what you will take to your Final Destination only True Belief and Good Deeds are your Way to Salvation

(*Muhammad Sherif*)







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CONTENTS

HONORIFIC PHRASES IN THIS BOOK

(the Exalted)	Used after the mention of God/Allah to express: Glorified and Exalted is He
(blessings and peace be upon him)	Blessings and peace be upon him; used after mention of the Prophet Muhammad
(peace be upon him)	Peace be upon him; used after mention of any prophet or after mention of Angel Gabriel
(May Allah be pleased with him)	used after mention of a male Companion of the Prophet Muhammad
(May Allah be pleased with her)	used after mention of a female Companion of the Prophet Muhammad

ABOUT THE WORD

'LORD'



The word *lord* in English has several related meanings. The original meaning is 'master' or 'ruler' and in this sense it is often used to refer to human beings: 'the lord of the mansion' or '*Lord* So-and-So' (in the United Kingdom, for example). The word *Lord* with a capital L is used in the lexicon of Islam to refer to the One and Only God - Allah. In Islam, there is no ambiguity about the meaning of this word. While it is true that one may occasionally use the word *lord* (whether capitalized or not) to refer to a human being, in Islamic discourse the reference of this term is always clear from the context. Whereas for Christians, Hindus and other polytheists, the word *Lord* with a capital L may refer to Allah, to Jesus or to some imagined deity, for Muslims, there can be no plurality of meaning. Allah alone is the Lord, and the Lord is Allah - not Jesus, not Rama, not any other being.

The Editor

• ABOUT THE WORD ALLAH

Although the English word 'God' has often been used interchangeably in this book with the word Allah, there is a difference. 'Allah' is the word in Arabic that is translated as 'God'. However, 'Allah' has a much more precise meaning than 'God'. 'Allah' is not merely an Arabic term for the word 'god'. Instead, the root word of the word 'Allah' is *ilâh*, which means 'a god'. There are countless numbers of made-up 'gods', but only One True God whose name is Allah. The word 'Allah' literally means 'the worshipped'. Allah is, thus, the proper name for the **only Being that is worthy of worship**, the True Creator of the universe. By saying 'Allah', Muslims are, in essence, negating every other entity which people wrongfully worship. The name 'Allah' is how God Almighty has referred to Himself in the Qur'an[1], and how Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) also referred to Him. Therefore, in this work, the term 'Allah' will often be used in reference to this One and Only God, who is worthy of worship.

1. The Qur'an is the sacred book or scripture revealed to Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him).



Introduction

Allah (*Subhânahu wa Ta'âlâ* - Glorified and Exalted is He) is the Most-Kind, the Most Compassionate. He did not leave people to go astray. Indeed, He sent prophets to tell people who had created them, why they had been created, what is His right on them [being their Lord], what are the rights of human beings towards Him if they obey Him, what are His attributes, how to worship Him, what is the fact behind death, and what is going to happen after death: paradise for those who follow His messengers and hell-fire for those who don't.

Allah, the most-kind and Wise, did not give a chance to the followers of Jesus (*'alayhi as-salâm* - peace be upon him) to forever suffer, split and conflict between themselves on the reality of his personality. Indeed, He sent Prophet Muhammad (*salla Allâhu 'alayhi wa sallam* - blessings and peace be upon him) to unveil the fact and solve what people perceived as a mystery or a point of great division.

This humble work sheds light on the personality of a great prophet, Prophet Jesus, son of Mary (peace be upon

them both). It details his characteristics, and clarifies all the doubts about his personality by clearly referring the reader to specific references in the Bible and other Islamic sources. These have been supported with theoretical and logical proofs which ultimately set Prophet Jesus, in the mind of the fair reader, at the correct level without committing any extremes or deviation.

Before I leave you with the book, I would like to thank all those respected scholars, who gave me a chance to learn and quote extensively from their books, especially Dr. Jamal Badawi, Dr. Bilal Philips, Dr. Ahmed Deedat, Dr. Naji Arfaj and Brother Muhammad bin Abdullah Caraballo. My small contribution is mainly a compilation of passages from their wonderful works.

With this short preface, I leave you to peruse the book.

Kind regards

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11

FACTS ABOUT

JESUS & His Mother MARY

in the Biblical & Islamic Teachings

The Qur'an does not present a detailed biography of Jesus (peace be upon him). However, it does highlight the important aspects of his birth along with his miracles, his mission and his ascension. The Qur'anic account of Jesus' ministry confirms most of his miracles mentioned in the Bible; it even identifies some which are not mentioned in the Bible. What we know about Prophet Jesus Christ (peace be upon him) can be divided into two topics: his personality and his message. Eleven facts have been detailed below.

01



What you should know about Jesus عليه السلام

THE STATUS OF JESUS

(PBUH) in Islam

Islam teaches that Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him) is one of the most respected prophets because of his efforts in spreading the word of Allah. It displays a true spirit of love towards him and his mother, Mary. There is not a single disparaging remark against Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him) or any other prophet in the entire Qur'an or other Islamic literature or Islamic history books. An evidence of praise for Jesus (peace be upon him) is the fact that his story along with that of his mother's has been mentioned in three places in the Qur'an: chapters 3, 4 and 19. In fact, an entire chapter of the Qur'an, (chapter 19), is named after 'Maryam' (Mary) in her honour.[2]

2. Readers should consider that in all of the 66 books of the Protestants and 73 of the Roman Catholics, this honour has not been given to Mary in the Christian Bible. Also, none of those books is named after Mary or her son.

Deedat, Christ in Islam, 11.

It is also noteworthy that no chapter in the Qur'an is named after any of Prophet Muhammad's wives or daughters.

Another evidence of praise is that the name of Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him) has been mentioned 25 times in the Qur'an; this is in contrast to the mention of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), whose name is mentioned only four times. This proves that Islam honours all prophets for the message they have in common; it did not discard one prophet with the advent of another.

> The prophet who would succeed him: "He will glorify me."

Jesus (peace be upon him) has been referred to in the Qur'an with many titles, Ibn Maryam (son of Mary), the Messiah (the anointed one), 'Abdullâh (slave of Allah),[3] and *Rasool Allâh* (the messenger of Allah).

This praise and glorification agrees with what Jesus (peace be upon him) is reported to have said in John 16:14[4] describing the prophet who would succeed him: "He will glorify me."

3. The meaning of slavery is linked to the meaning of worship, which is total submission and complete obedience to Allah's commandments in terms of one's belief, intentions, statements, and actions. This can be achieved by striving to do what Allah has encouraged, avoiding what He has forbidden, and worshipping Him alone according to His teachings. This is the true meaning of the worship of Allah or 'slavery to Allah' in Islam. May Allah enable his followers to achieve this level of worship. Amen.
4. New International Version (NIV) and the King James Version (KJV).

02

The beginning of his Lineage



The Qur'anic account of Jesus (peace be upon him) starts with the story of his mother, Mary.

When she conceived her, Mary's mother vowed to dedicate her unborn child to the worship of Allah and service to Jerusalem.

Mary grew up to be very righteous. She dedicated herself to the worship of Allah and was supplied with provision from Him. Therefore, it is no mystery as to why she was chosen to be the mother of Jesus (peace be upon him). The Qur'anic verses inform us:

{[Mention, O Muhammad], when the wife of 'Imrân said: My Lord, indeed I have pledged to You what is in my womb, consecrated [for Your service[5]], so accept this from me. Indeed, You are the Hearing, the Knowing. But when she delivered her, she said: My Lord, I have delivered a female - and Allah was most knowing of what she delivered - and

5. She means the service to Jerusalem.

> My Lord, I have delivered a female - and Allah was most knowing of what she delivered

the male is not like the female; I have named her Mary, and I seek refuge for her in You and [for] her descendants from Satan, the expelled [from the mercy of Allah]. So her Lord accepted her with good acceptance and caused her to grow in a good manner and put her in the care of Zechariah. Every time Zechariah entered upon her in the prayer chamber, he found with her provision. He said: O Mary, from where is this [coming] to you? She said: It is from Allah. Indeed, Allah provides for whom He wills without account.} *(Qur'an 3: 35-37)*

It is interesting to note that when the mother of Mary delivered her child, she was a bit disappointed to discover that she did not have a son. This was because she had always wished for her child to be dedicated to the worship of Allah. However, little did she know that this very child would be extremely righteous, and end up being the mother of Jesus himself. This was better for her than a son, hence, Allah's words: {…and Allah was most knowing of what she delivered…}

03

THE STATUS OF MARY

Mary, mother of Jesus, is very highly respected in Islam. Her story is an important one that is mentioned several times in the Qur'an. Mary is mentioned by name 31 times in the Qur'an, and in fact an entire chapter of the Qur'an is named after her. This is an honor that not even the women in Prophet Muhammad's family were accorded. Although there are stories and anecdotes in the Qur'an about other women of strong faith, and others of importance in the history of the three Abrahamic religions, none other than Mary is actually mentioned by name.

Allah has said:

{And [mention] when the angels said: O Mary, indeed Allah has chosen you and purified you and chosen you above the women of the worlds. O Mary, be devoutly obedient to your Lord and prostrate and bow with those who bow [in prayer]. That is from the news of the unseen which We reveal to you, [O Muhammad]…} *(Qur'an 3: 42-44)*

04

The news about JESUS (PEACE BE UPON HIM)



When Mary approached adulthood, she was informed about the honour of bearing this noble son well before his birth. It was the angel Gabriel (peace be upon him), who appeared in front of her with this news. The following verses in the Qur'an describe the dialogue between Mary and the angel:

{[And mention] when the angels said: O Mary, indeed Allah gives you good tidings of a word from Him, whose name will be the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary - distinguished in this world and the hereafter and among those brought near [to Allah]. He will speak to the people in the cradle and in maturity and will be of the righteous. She said: My Lord, how will I have a child when no man has touched me? [The angel] said: Such is Allah; He creates what He wills. When He decrees a matter, He only says to it: Be, and it is.} *(Qur'an 3: 45-47)*

05

The Birth of Jesus

(PEACE BE UPON HIM)

Mary conceived this child miraculously (the first miracle) and retired to a distant place where she waited for the birth of her child. This amazing story has been related to us in chapter 19 of the Qur'an, titled Maryam (Mary):

{So she conceived him, and she withdrew with him to a remote place. And the pains of childbirth drove her to the trunk of a palm tree. She said: O, I wish I had died before this and was in oblivion, forgotten. But he called her from below her: Do not grieve; your Lord has provided beneath you a stream. And shake toward you the trunk of the palm tree; it will drop upon you ripe, fresh dates. So eat and drink and be contented. And if you see from among humanity anyone, say: Indeed, I have vowed to the Most Merciful abstention, so I will not speak today to [any] man.} *(Qur'an 19: 22-26)*



06

Subsequent MIRACLES OF JESUS (PBUH)

Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him) was blessed with the ability to perform many miracles. This supported his claim that he was a prophet sent by Allah. Allah Almighty has said in the Qur'an:

{…And We gave Jesus, the son of Mary, clear proofs and supported him with the pure spirit…} (Qur'an 2: 87)

Muslims do not hesitate to accept the fact that Jesus (peace be upon him) performed miracles. At the same time, Muslims do not elevate Jesus (peace be upon him) to the position of Allah or describe him as the 'son of God'. They do not consider him to be anything more than a divinely-inspired man: a messenger and prophet of Allah.

The same applies to all the other prophets, since many of them were blessed with different miracles as well.

The first miracle associated with Jesus (peace be upon him) was that he was born from a mother without any human intervention (father). Allah gave the divine command 'Be' and he was created.

> Jesus was born from a mother without any human intervention (father).

The Qur'an has mentioned the miraculous creation of both Adam and Jesus in the following verse:

{Indeed, the example of Jesus to Allah is like that of Adam. He created Him from dust; then He said to him: Be, and he was.} *(Qur'an 3: 59)*

The Qur'an has mentioned that Jesus' miraculous birth did not change his status as a human; that is, he did not evolve from a human being to become Allah or a son of Allah. This is because, rationally, if that had been the case, then Adam would have had a greater right to such an honour, since he was born without a human father or mother.



Another MIRACLE

Another Miracle was that Allah gave Jesus (peace be upon him) the ability to talk in his infancy, a blessing which helped save his mother from the harsh slander of her own community. He is one of only three people whom Allah chose for this. This remarkable story has been narrated in the Qur'an:

{Then she brought him to her people, carrying him. They said: O Mary, you have certainly done a thing unprecedented. O sister of Aaron, your father was not a man of evil, nor was your mother unchaste. So she pointed to him. They said: How can we speak to one who is in the cradle a child? [Jesus] said: Indeed, I am the slave of Allah. He has given me the scripture and made me a prophet. And He has made me blessed wherever I am and has enjoined upon me prayer and *zakâh*[6] *as long as I remain alive, and [made me] dutiful to my mother, and He has not made me a wretched tyrant. And peace is on me the day I was born and the day I will die and the day I am raised alive.}* (Qur'an 19: 27-33)

6. Wherever possible, Arabic terms have been translated into English. In cases where we have chosen to retain the Arabic, the transliterated word or phrase is shown in italics the first time it appears in the text; the term is also defined in the glossary found at the end of this book. (Editor)

OTHER SUBSEQUENT **MIRACLES**

Other subsequent Maracles performed by Jesus (peace be upon him) have also been mentioned in the Qur'an:

{[The day] when Allah will say: O Jesus, son of Mary, remember My favour upon you and upon your mother when I supported you with the pure spirit and you spoke to the people in the cradle and in maturity;[7] and [remember] when I taught you writing and wisdom,[8] the Torah and the Gospel,[9] and when you designed from clay [what was] like the form of a bird with My permission, then you breathed into it, and it became a bird with My permission; and you healed the blind and the leper with My permission; and when you brought forth the dead with My permission; and when I restrained the children of Israel from [killing] you when you came to them with clear proofs and those who disbelieved among them said: This is not but obvious magic.} *(Qur'an 5: 110)*

Indeed, the Islamic account of the miracles bestowed on Jesus (peace be upon him) describe more miracles than those known to Christians. Also, facts 10 and 11 below are two more miracles associated with Jesus (peace be upon him) and his role as the Messiah.

7. This means that Jesus called people to worship Allah both while he was a baby in the cradle and when he reached adulthood.
8. 'Wisdom' here means the correct and profound understanding of religion.
9. It is the original form of revelation given to Jesus. According to Qur'anic exegesis, Jesus had memorized both these scriptures.



AN IMPORTANT

NOTE

As shown in the previous verse, it was emphasized after mentioning each miracle that whenever Jesus (peace be upon him) performed a miracle, he informed people that it was by Allah's permission. He made it clear to his followers that he was not performing the miracle by himself. As Dr. Philips points out:

There are texts in the New Testament which confirm that Jesus did not act on his own. Jesus is quoted in John 5:30 saying: I can of mine own self do nothing...In acts 2:22, Paul writes: Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs **which God did through him** in your midst, as you yourselves know...[10]

10. Philips, The True Message of Jesus Christ, 45.

[07]

HUMAN Qualities of Jesus (PBUH)

Islam forbids the deification of human beings (going to excess in the exaltation of humans-prophets or otherwise-to the point where they perceive them as divine). Addressing both the Jews and the Christians, Allah has said in the Qur'an:

{O People of the Scripture,[11] do not commit excess in your religion or say about Allah except the truth. The Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, was but a messenger of Allah and His word which He directed to Mary and a soul [created at a command] from Him. So believe in Allah and His messengers. And do not say: Three; desist - it is better for you. Indeed, Allah is but one God. Exalted is He above having a son. To Him belongs whatever is in the heavens

11. Allah begins this sacred verse with a word of respect, whereby the Jews and the Christians have been addressed as learned people, who have received revelation in the form of scripture.

and whatever is on the earth. And sufficient is Allah as Disposer of affairs. Never would the Messiah disdain to be a slave of Allah, nor would the angels near [to Him]. And whoever disdains His worship and is arrogant - He will gather them to Himself all together. And as for those who believed and did righteous deeds, He will give them in full their rewards and grant them extra from His bounty. But as for those who disdained and were arrogant, He will punish them with a painful punishment, and they will not find for themselves besides Allah any protector or helper. O humankind, there has come to you a conclusive proof from your Lord, and We have sent down to you a clear light. So those who believe in Allah and hold fast to Him - He will admit them to mercy from Himself and bounty and guide them to Himself on a straight path.} *(Qur'an 4: 171-175)*

Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) also warned against the deification of humans. He said:

> "O people, beware of going to excesses in religion, for verily people before you were destroyed for going to excesses in religion." (Recorded by Ibn Mâjah and an-Nasâ'i with a sound chain of narration)

Being a human prophet, Jesus (peace be upon him) did not ask people to worship him. Allah has informed us in the Qur'an that on the Day of Judgement, He will gather all the nations in front of Himself and will ask the messengers how they were received by their peoples and what they said to them. Among those who are going to be questioned is Jesus (peace be upon him):

{And [beware the day] when Allah will say: O Jesus, son of Mary, did you say to the people: Take me and my mother as deities besides Allah? He will say: Exalted are You! It was not for me to say that to which I have no right. If I had said it, You would have known it. You know what is within myself, and I do not know what is within Yourself. Indeed, it is You who is Knower of the unseen. I said not to them except what You commanded me - to worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord. And I was a witness over them as long as I was among them; but when You took me up, You were the Observer over them, and You are, over all things, Witness. If You should punish them - indeed they are Your slaves; but if You forgive them - indeed it is You who is the Exalted in Might, the Wise. Allah will say: This is the day when the truthful will benefit from their truthfulness. For them are gardens [in paradise] beneath which rivers flow, wherein they will abide forever, Allah being pleased with them, and they with Him. That is the great attainment.} *(Qur'an 5: 116-119)*

No Evidence for the Divinity of Jesus (PBUH) in the Bible

It should be noted that nowhere in the Gospels does Jesus actually call himself 'God' or the 'Son of God' or one of three. If this was the case then it would have been mentioned very clearly in the Bible at least once; this is because Jesus - like all other prophets - was sent to enlighten his people about the truth and clear up doubts, not to confuse them further.

Indeed, the Bible, in its present form, points to Jesus' humanness.

1. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, **the man** Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 2:5)

2. Even in some of the writings of Paul, which the Church has taken to be sacred, Jesus is referred to as a man, distinct and different from God (Allah). In 1 Timothy, 2:5, Paul writes, "For there is one God and one mediator[12] between God and men, **the man Christ Jesus**."

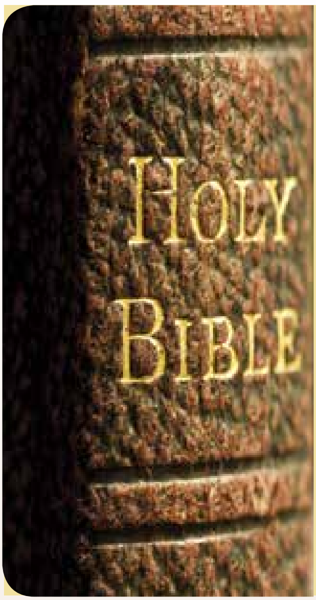
Today, there are many modern scholars in Christianity who hold that Jesus Christ was not 'God'.

In 1977, a group of seven biblical scholars, including leading Anglican theologians and other New Testament scholars, published a book called *The Myth of God Incarnate*, which caused great uproar in the General Synod of the Church of England. In the preface, the editor, John Hick, wrote the following:

> The writers of this book are convinced that another major theological development is called for in this last part of the twentieth century. The need arises from growing knowledge of Christian origins, and involves a recognition that Jesus was (as he is presented in Act 2.21) 'a man approved by God' for a special role within the divine purpose, and that the later conception of him as God incarnate, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity living a human life, is a mythological or poetic way of expressing his significance for us.[13]

13. Philips, The True Message of Jesus Christ, 61.

It should be noted that the concept of Jesus' humanness is not only held by the Muslims; it is also held by the Jews and other early sects of Christianity such as the Ebionites (Nazarenes), the Cerinthians, the Basilidians, and the Goths. They, too, maintained that Jesus was a beloved Prophet of God, and they have not elevated him from his rightful status. Even today, there are churches in Asia and Africa along with the Unitarian church and Jehovah's Witnesses who do not worship Jesus as God. It is important to stress here that this is not enough to free them on the Day of Judgement unless they accept Islam, Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), and the last revelation from Allah.



The truth about 'SON-SHIP'[14]

In the Bible, the expression of 'son' has been used to refer to many of the earlier prophets. Israel, for example, was called the 'Son of God' in one of the books of Moses, "And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, thus saith the Lord, **Israel is My son**, even My first born." (Exodus 4:22)

Also, in the Psalms, the same title was given to David, "I will declare the decree: the Lord had said unto me, **Thou art My Son**, this day have I begotten thee." (Psalms 2:7)

14. Compiled from Caraballo, My Great Love for Jesus Led Me to Islam.

Likewise, in I Chronicles, 22:10, Solomon was called the Son of God, "He shall build a house for My name: and he shall be **My son**, and I will be **his Father** and I will establish the throne of his Kingdom over Israel forever."

From the above statements and many others in the Bible, it has been established that the word 'son' refers to '**nearness to God in love**'. This is ascertained when we see Jesus himself saying that every man who did **the will of the Father** in heaven was a Son of God.

> Jesus was reported to have said in the following verses:
>
> "Love your enemies… that ye may be the **children of your Father** who is in Heaven." (Matthew 5:44-45)
>
> "Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they shall be called the **sons of God**." (Matthew 5:9)

Hence, what made a man worthy of being called the 'Son of God' was a devout life and kind, merciful behaviour.

The Bible proves that Jesus actually rejected being called 'Son of God':

> And demons also came out of many, crying, 'You are the Son of God!' **But he rebuked them,** and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ. (Luke 4:41)[15]

Therefore, in view of the above, there is **no justification to regard Jesus as the Son of God in an exclusive and unique meaning.** When Jesus used the phrase 'Son of God', it **meant exactly the same as it meant when it was used for Adam, Israel, David and Solomon** (peace be upon them), that is, the nearest in love to God.

The humanness and prophethood of Jesus (peace be upon him) is affirmed in many verses of the Qur'an to correct the grave mistake of elevating him to the status of God (Allah) or to ascribe him as the Son of God (Allah).

In the Qur'an, Allah has denied having a son in nine different chapters: 2: 116, 10: 68, 11: 117, 18: 4, 19: 77, 19: 88, 19: 91-92, 21: 26, 25: 2, 39: 4, and 72: 3. As an example, He says:

{And they say: The Most Merciful has taken [for Himself] a son. You have done an atrocious thing. The heavens almost rupture therefrom and the earth splits open and the mountains collapse in devastation that they attribute to the Most Merciful a son. And it is not appropriate for the Most Merciful that He should take a son. There is no one in the heavens and earth but that he comes to the Most Merciful as a slave. He has enumerated them and counted them a [full] counting. And all of them are coming to Him on the Day of Resurrection alone.} *(Qur'an 19: 88-95)*

Allah has also mentioned:

15. Philips, The True Message of Jesus Christ, 50.

{The Messiah, son of Mary, was not but a messenger; [other] messengers have passed on before him. And his mother was a supporter of truth. They both used to eat food. Look how We make clear to them the signs; then look how they are deluded.} *(Qur'an 5: 75)*

Clearly, the idea that Jesus was God or that he was the son of God is textually weak and logically impossible.

IMPORTANT NOTES

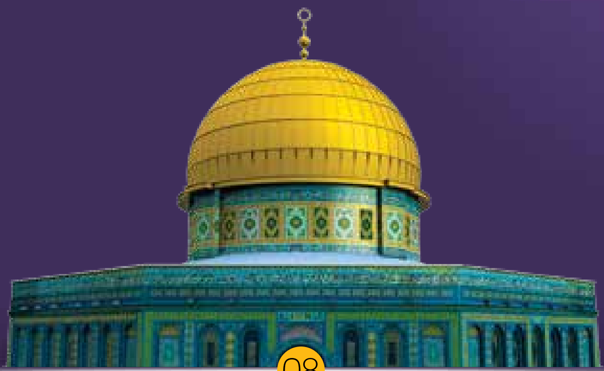


1 In none of Christian or Muslim scriptures, Mary claimed that she was a mother of God, or that her son was a God. As mentioned in the Qur'an, she was a pious, virtuous woman.

2 As a precautionary measure, there are many verses in the Qur'an which also confirm Prophet Muhammad's human attributes, in order to prevent his followers from elevating him to a divine or semi-divine status, as happened in the case of Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him).

For example, in chapter 18, Allah instructs Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) to inform the following to all those who hear his message:

{Say: I am only a man like you, to whom has been revealed that your god is one God. So whoever would hope for the meeting with his Lord - let him do righteous work and not associate in the worship of his Lord anyone.} (Qur'an 18: 110)



08

JESUS' PROPHETHOOD

The Islamic view of Jesus (peace be upon him) is a moderate one, as it lies between the two extremes. The Jews rejected Jesus (peace be upon him) in his role as a prophet of Allah and called him an impostor. The Christians, on the other hand, considered him to be the son of God (Allah) and 'God-incarnate' in some cases; thus, they began worshipping him. Islam considers Jesus (peace be upon him) to be one of the greatest prophets of Allah. Allah has said:

{The Messiah, son of Mary, was not but a messenger; [other] messengers have passed on before him. And his mother was a supporter of truth.[16] They both used to eat food. Look how We make clear to them the signs; then look how they are deluded.} *(Qur'an 5: 75)*

16. She never claimed that she was a mother of God, or that her son was a God. She was a pious, virtuous woman.

09

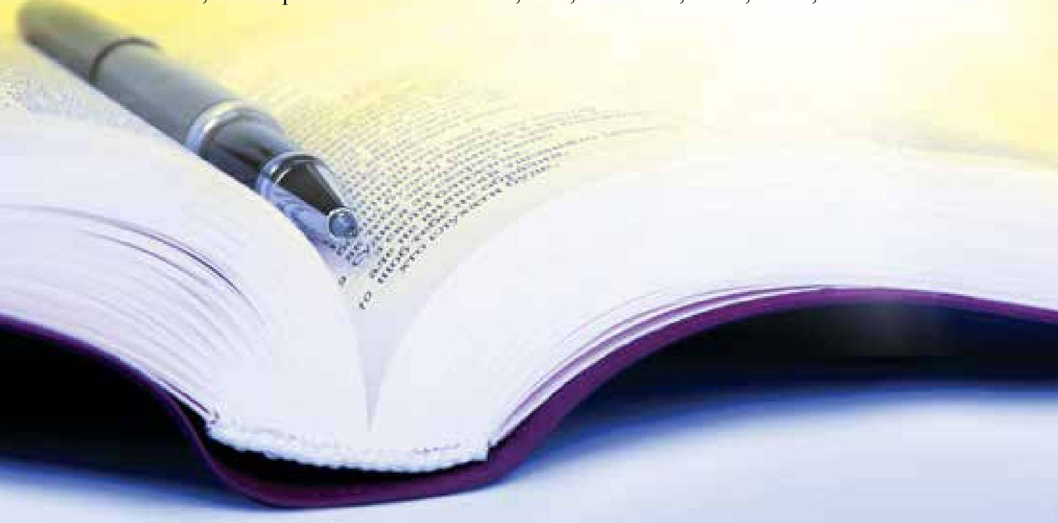
Proof from the BIBLE of Jesus' Prophethood

There are many verses in the New Testament which affirm Jesus'prphethood.

1. Now this is life eternal, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you **have sent**.[17] (John 17:3)

2. In Matthew 21:11, the people of his time are recorded as referring to Jesus as a prophet, "And the crowds said: this is the **prophet Jesus** of Nazareth of Galilee."

17. This verse indicates very clearly the distinction between God, the Deity and Jesus, the Prophet. See also John 4:34, 5:30, 7:16 & 28, 11:42, 13:16, 14:24.



3. In Mark, 6:4, it is stated that Jesus referred to himself as a Prophet, "And Jesus said to them, '**A prophet** is not without honour, except in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.'"

4. In the previous verses, Jesus is referred to as having been sent as a messenger. In Matthew 10:40, Jesus was purported to have said, "He that receiveth you receiveth me, and He that receiveth him that **sent me**."

5. In John 5:30, it is narrated that Jesus also said:

   I can do nothing on my own authority, **as I hear I judge**; and my judgement is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of Him **who sent me**.

6. Jesus was also reported in the Gospel, according to Matthew 19:16, HNV,[18] to have been referred to as 'the teacher', which is the role of all the prophets, "Behold, one came and said to him, '**Good teacher**, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?'"

7. In Matthew 19:17, Jesus responded to the one who addressed him as "good teacher", saying, "Why callest thou me good? **There is none good but one, that is God.**" Jesus here rejects being called 'good', and states that only God is truly good; he clearly implies that he is not God. Also, Jesus here rejects being called 'perfectly good', because perfection belongs only to God (Allah).

8. In Matthew 5:17-18, Jesus stated:

   Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the [way of] the prophets; I have come not to abolish them

18. HNV: 'Hebrew names version'.

but to fulfil them, for I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

9. Also in Matthew 5:19, Jesus Christ was reported to have insisted on strict obedience to the commandments of Allah, which is the role of any prophet:

Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

The mission of JESUS (PEACE BE UPON HIM)



As mentioned earlier, the call to the worship of Allah alone (monotheism), without any intermediary, was the message of all the prophets. Because of the persisting deviation in this doctrine, it has had to be reaffirmed by all of the prophets of Allah throughout the ages. The monotheistic message of Islam simply tells people that they should worship only Allah, and should not worship anyone or anything other than Allah, in any way, shape or form.

Jesus (peace be upon him) propagated the message of monotheism: Worship of Allah alone as prescribed in the Gospels. He worked hard to propagate this message, and invited everyone to it. Allah has mentioned in the Qur'an that Jesus will say on the Day of Judgement when He asks him whether he asked the Christians' to worship him and his mother:

He asks him whether he asked the Christians' to worship him and his mother

{I said not to them except what You commanded me - to worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord...} *(Qur'an 5: 117)*

However, Christians now call upon (supplicate to) Jesus (and others) besides Allah. Moreover, they direct all types of worship to Jesus. Associating others with Allah is nothing but polytheism. Surprisingly, although the text of the Bible has been altered significantly, it still contains evidence that Jesus called others towards monotheism:

❖ In Luke 4:8, ESV,[19] the Devil asks Jesus to worship him, promising him authority and glory of all of the kingdoms of this world, "And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, **and Him only shall you serve**.'"

❖ **And there is no other god besides Me**, a righteous God and a Saviour; there is **none besides Me. Turn to Me** and

19. ESV: 'English standard version'.

be saved…**To Me every knee shall bow**. (Isaiah 45:21-23)

❖ **Turn to me** now and be saved, people all over the world! **I am the only God** there is. (Isaiah 45:22)

❖ **Worship the Lord** your God, and serve **Him only**. (Matthew 4:10)

In the Bible, the true God emphatically testifies:

I am the LORD, and there is no other god. I have not spoken in secret or kept my purpose hidden…I am the Lord, and I speak the truth; I make known what is right. (Isaiah 45:18-19, GNT)

Thus, the essence of the message of Jesus was that only Allah deserves to be worshiped; the worship of anyone or anything besides Allah or along with Him is false. It is important to note that worshipping others besides God is a major alteration of Jesus' message. The call to monotheism became distorted after his departure by later followers, beginning with Paul, who turned that pure and simple message into a complicated Trinitarian philosophy which justified the worship of Jesus, followed by the worship of Jesus' mother, Mary, the angels and the saints. Catholics have a long list of saints to whom they turn in times of need.

Worshiping others besides Allah is irrational and in vain; this is because neither the living nor the dead can answer the prayers (supplication) of humankind. The worship of Allah should not be shared with His creation because they are people just like us; they are not the creators. They are weak creatures like us; they need food, drink, shelter, and help, and after their death (or ascension in the case of Jesus) they cannot even hear the ones who call them!

Islam effectively revived the doctrine of monotheism. For example, Allah has mentioned in the Qur'an:

{They have certainly disbelieved who say: Allah is the Messiah, the son of Mary, while the Messiah has said: O Children of Israel, worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord. Indeed, he who associates others with Allah - Allah has forbidden him paradise, and his abode is the fire. And there are not for the wrongdoers any helpers.} (Qur'an 5: 72)

{Indeed, those you [polytheists] call upon besides Allah are slaves like you...} (Qur'an 7: 194)

{…Is there a deity with Allah? High is Allah above whatever they associate with Him.} (Qur'an 27: 63)

{…Is there a deity with Allah? Say: Produce your proof, if you should be truthful.} (Qur'an 27: 64)

{And I did not create the jinn and humankind except to worship Me.} (Qur'an 51: 56)

Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) said: "Supplication is an essential act of worship" (An authentic hadith narrated by at-Tirmidhi and Abu Dâwood)

Consequently, if a person claims to be a Muslim and prays to a prophet, saint, statue, or anything else, then he or she has stepped out of the bounds of Islam.

Thus, according to these affirmations, all other supposed gods and deities whom people worship and call upon, like Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Brahma, Shiva, Krishna, or Buddha are neither gods, nor are they manifestations of the one true God (Allah). Even if someone were to worship Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), the same punishment mentioned above

would apply to him. The prophecy of Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) as a successor to Christ was a part of Jesus' message. Allah has mentioned in the Qur'an:

{And [mention] when Jesus, the son of Mary, said: O children of Israel, indeed I am the messenger of Allah to you confirming what came before me of the Torah and bringing good tidings of a messenger to come after me, whose name is Ahmad. But when he came to them with clear evidences, they said: This is obvious magic.} *(Qur'an 61: 6)*

Though the Bible has been altered a great deal, it contains remnants of the original true message revealed to Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him). In this regard, the messenger of whom Jesus gave glad tidings and prophecies is still referred to in both the old and new testaments of the Bible.[20]

Jesus was a link in a long line of prophets and messengers sent by Allah to various civilizations and nations, whenever they needed guidance or deviated from the teachings of Allah. Jesus was sent by Allah especially to preach to the Jews, who had deviated from the teachings of Moses and other messengers. Just as he was supported by Allah miraculously in his conception, birth and childhood, he was also supported by numerous miracles to prove that he was a messenger from Allah. However, a majority of Jews rejected his ministry.

It must be noted that Jesus Christ (peace be upon him), son of Mary, was the last in the line of prophets sent to the Jewish people.

20. This important point is proven in many different works entitled 'Muhammad in the Bible'. They are available both on the Internet and in bookstores.

10

JESUS' ASCENSION

Jesus' ascension is the last miracle which was given to him while he was on the earth. The Jews attempted to kill him. Allah replaced him with another person who resembled him. Jesus (peace be upon him) was neither killed nor crucified; rather, he was raised to Allah. It was the other person, bearing resemblance to him, who was killed. To this day, the Christians believe that Jesus himself was the one who was killed. Allah has said in the Qur'an:

{And [for] their saying: Indeed, we have killed the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, the messenger of Allah. And they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him; but [another] was made to resemble him to them. And indeed, those who differ over it are in doubt about it. They have no knowledge of it except the following of assumption. And they did not kill him, for certain. Rather, Allah raised him to Himself. And ever is Allah Exalted in Might and Wise.} *(Qur'an 4: 157-158)*



[11]

THE SECOND COMING

of Jesus (peace be upon him)

In the Islamic teachings, there is clear evidence indicating the second coming of Jesus (peace be upon him) before the final hour; this is an additional and final miracle for Jesus. He will return not as God, as the Christians believe, but as Jesus, Allah's messenger and slave, as he has always been. The purpose of his coming will be to correct the misconceptions surrounding his message and mission. According to a statement of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), he will stay for forty years, and these will be the happiest years of life on this earth. During that time, those who had misconceptions about him will correct their understanding and believe in him as a messenger, not as the son of God (Allah).

It was narrated by Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him)[21] that the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace be upon him) said:

"By the One in Whose Hand is my soul, it will not be long before the son of Mary descends amongst you, a just judge and ruler. He will break the cross, kill the swine and abolish the tribute paid by Jews and Christians. Money will be so plentiful that no one will accept it. At that time, a single prostration will be better than this world and everything in it.[22]

Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) then said: Read if you wish (the following verse of the Qur'an):

He will break the cross, kill the swine and abolish the tribute paid by Jews and Christians.

{And there is none from the People of the Scripture[23] but that he will surely believe in Jesus before his death. And

21. Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) was one of the closest Companions of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). It should be noted that the words, actions, and tacit approvals of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) have been narrated by the Companions and have subsequently been recorded. A Companion, according to the majority of scholars, is one who has met personally with Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) during his lifetime and was a Muslim at the time of meeting him. Thus, one will find much of the history of the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) through such narrations, called the Hadith.
22. This is because with the advent of Jesus, people will know with certainty that the final hour is very near.
23. People of the Scripture: Jews and Christians

> There will be no prophet between me and Jesus, and he will return.

on the Day of Resurrection he will be against them a witness.} *(Qur'an 4: 159)*" (Bukhari)

In another narration, Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) said:

"Among the things which Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was recorded to have said regarding Prophet Jesus' return is the following: There will be no prophet between me and Jesus, and he will return. When he does, you will know him. He will be a well-built man of ruddy complexion and he will descend wearing a two-piece garment. His hair will look wet, though no water touched it. He will fight people to establish Islam and he will break the cross, kill the swine and cancel the jizyah.24 During his time, Allah will destroy all religions except Islam and the Antichrist25 will be killed. Jesus will remain on earth for forty years, and when he dies, Muslims will pray the funeral prayer for him." (A sound hadith recorded by Abu Dâwood)

Jesus' return will be one of the signs of the Day of Judgement. It will be the final miracle given to him before he dies.

24. Jizyah: It is a tax taken from the Christians and the Jews in lieu of living under Muslim protection.
25. The Antichrist is also called the 'false Christ'; he is a man who will claim that he is Allah, and he will be followed by ignorant people, but Prophet Jesus will find him and kill him.

A CALL TO REASON

A concluding suggestion: consider what everyone has in common. Come, let us reason together:

{Say: O People of the Scripture, come to a word that is equitable between us and you - that we will not worship except Allah and not associate anything with Him and not take one another as lords instead of Allah. But if they turn away, then say: Bear witness that we are Muslims [submitting to Him].} (Qur'an 3: 64)

{People of the Scripture} is the respectful title given to the Jews and the Christians in the Noble Qur'an. Muslims are being commanded to invite them with noble and respectful words: O People of the Book, O learned people, O people who claim to be the recipients of Divine revelation of a holy scripture, let us gather onto a common platform: that we worship none but Allah, because none but Him is worthy of worship, because He is our Lord and Cherisher, our Sustainer and Evolver, worthy of all praise, prayer and devotion.

These truths are basic and an integral part of any human being's intellect. Sort through the layers of indoctrination which hide this simple fact, and one will be able to see that deep down, every human being retains the simple and obvious concept of Allah. In essence, every human being agrees that there is only One God worthy of worship, One God who is free of partners, helpers, or anything that is ascribed to Him falsely.



THIS IS IT

In this book, you have been shown the right path, and Allah has given you the ability to distinguish right from wrong; He has also given you the freedom of choice as to whether or not to accept the message of Islam. If you accept His call, you will be warmly welcomed into paradise. If you reject it, you will end up with the biggest loss ever imagined: the loss of paradise and the guarantee of abiding in hellfire for all eternity. Take a moment to comprehend what eternity really means. It is a very frightening realization.

To those who have been faithful Christians, you are warmly welcome to embrace Islam because:

❖ Jesus asked his followers to follow Muhammad

(blessings and peace be upon him) whenever he appeared;[26]

- ❖ When Jesus comes back before the end of this world, he will follow Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) and abide by his teachings.

Yes, since Jesus called his true followers to follow it while he was on the earth, and will follow Islam when he comes back, all faithful Christian should follow Islam as well.

Remember that Abraham and Moses surrendered themselves completely to their Lord

To those who have been believing Jews, remember that Abraham and Moses surrendered themselves completely to their Lord, whether they called Him Elohenu, God, or Allah. All pride in ethnicity or ancestry is vain: what will matter in the end is your individual relationship with your Creator. This means total submission - Islam.

To those of other faiths or who, until now, did not feel that they had any faith at all, consider this message **now**, without any reluctance or hesitation, before it is too late; **before death overtakes you**. It can be soon. Who knows?

26. See for more discussion: Islam is Your Birthright', Chapter: 'The Amazing Prophecies of Muhammad in the Bible. See Appendix.



A Whisper

Some people are not able to find the truth because of their blind commitment to their beliefs. Their tenacious adherence is usually not based on an intellectual understanding of the teachings, but on powerful cultural and emotional influences. Because they were brought up in a particular family or society, they firmly cling to the beliefs of that group, believing that they are upholding the truth.

There are others who are convinced about the religion of Islam and are mentally ready to embrace it. However, when they come to the point when they remember the drastic change in their lives which might not please their families and communities, they tend to go back and change their minds about the decision.

Here is a whisper in their ears: Irrespective of the amount of money, prestige, position, and power an unbeliever might have possessed in this life, he or she will

never have enough to buy his or her entrance into paradise. In the hereafter, the poorest from among the inhabitants of earth, who had testified to the truth of Islam, will be far happier and more dignified than the richest person who did not accept the message of Islam.

Rejecting Allah's message is the biggest sin that one can commit. For this reason, while the soul of an unbeliever is still in his or her body, the wise individual should quickly utilize the occasion: he or she is still alive to accept Allah's message before it is too late. The time for repentance is limited. Once death arrives, it is no longer possible to obtain forgiveness.27 Allah has mentioned in the Qur'an:

{[For such is the state of the disbelievers], until, when death comes to one of them, he says: My Lord, send me back that I might do righteousness in that which I left behind. No! It is only a word he is saying…}[28] (Qur'an 23: 99-100)

My Lord, send me back that I might do righteous-ness in that which I left behind

Religion is, without question, the most important aspect of a person's life as it impacts whether or not a person is rightly guided; it follows, therefore, that choosing the true faith is the most important personal decision one must make; this decision needs to be based on clarity and total conviction. When it

27. Compiled from Caraballo, My Great Love for Jesus Led Me to Islam.
28. The unbelievers will ask for a 'second chance' when they see the angels ready to punish them, but it will be too late; they were given the time, the intellect and the guidance, but they neglected it for years till time ran out.

comes to matters of religion and creed, nothing must be left to chance. This is because the one who is truly guided - as opposed to the one who is not - will surely find eternal happiness in the hereafter!

Being presented with the previous proofs, whoever has a sane intellect can analyze and reason; a crossroad has been reached, in which Allah (Glorified is He) calls all people to follow the clear, straight road and avoid all the foggy, zigzag ones. The right path has now become distinct from the wrong path, as Allah has mentioned in the Qur'an:

{...The right course has become clear from the wrong. So whoever disbelieves in *tâghoot* and believes in Allah has grasped the most trustworthy handhold with no break in it. And Allah is Hearing and Knowing.} *(Qur'an 2: 256)*

He has also specified:

{There shall be no compulsion in [acceptance of] the religion. The right course has become clear from the wrong. So whoever disbelieves in tâghoot and believes in Allah has grasped the most trustworthy handhold with no break in it. And Allah is Hearing and Knowing.} *(Qur'an 2: 256)*

It is my duty and responsibility, as a member of this great planet, and as the one who has submitted my free will to the law and commandments of the Supreme Being, to urge all human beings to stay away from the worship of false deities, to stop putting their faith in statues, sphinxes, figures, amulets, talismans, horseshoes, and any other objects that have been manufactured by humans or created by God. After repentance, a person should submit completely to the will of Allah, the Only God of the universe.

How to Become a Muslim

Every religion has its own requirements for conversion: If someone wants to become Jewish, he or she needs to be able to pledge all of the following:

1) To enter the ‘eternal covenant’ between God and the people of Israel and to become a Jew of his or her own free will;
2) To accept Judaism to the exclusion of all other religious faiths and practices, which means to deny the prophethood of Jesus and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) and to deny the revelations that God sent to humankind through them;
3) To pledge undivided loyalty to Judaism and to the Jewish people under all circumstances;
4) To commit to learning the Torah and Jewish knowledge; and
5) To raise his or her children as Jews.



To be a Christian

ONE MUST

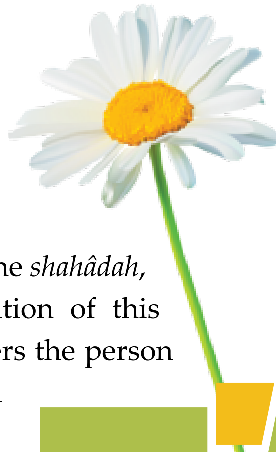
1. Believe that God (Allah) has a partner, a mother, and a son;
2. Believe that every new-born baby is born sinful;
3. Believe that God became a man and descended to the earth to die for the sins of the people;
4. Deny the prophethood of Muhammad (pbuh) publicly;
5. Deny that the Qur'an is revelation from Allah

However, to become

A MUSLIM IS SIMPLE

1. Bear witness that no one deserves worship except Allah (disown all false gods);
2. Bear witness that Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is His messenger;
3. Believe in all the six articles of faith; and
4. Worship Allah as taught by Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him).

Hence, becoming a Muslim is a simple and easy process. If anyone has a real desire to be a Muslim and has full belief that Islam is the true religion of God, all he needs to do is to pronounce the *shahâdah*, the testimony of faith. Pronunciation of this testimony with a sincere heart enters the person into the folds of Islam. It is the main gate to Islam.



Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) said:

Jesus is the slave of Allah, His Prophet, and His word which He bestowed in Mary

"Whoever testifies that there is none worthy of being worshipped but Allah, Who has no partner, and that Muhammad is His slave and Prophet, and that Jesus is the slave of Allah, His Prophet, and His word[29] which He bestowed in Mary and a spirit created from Him; and that paradise (heaven) is true, and that the hellfire is true, Allah will eventually admit him into paradise, according to his deeds." (Bukhari)

The first part of the testimony consists of the most important word of truth that Allah has ever revealed to His noble prophets, "There is nothing divine or worthy of being worshipped except for Allah." He has stated in the

29. It means that Jesus was created when Allah said the 'word': Be; when He said it, he was created in the womb of his mother, Mary.



Holy Qur'an:

{And We sent not before you any messenger except that We revealed to him that: There is no deity except Me, so worship Me.} *(Qur'an 21: 25)*

Bearing this testimony implies that all forms of worship, whether it is praying, fasting, invoking, seeking refuge in, and offering an animal as sacrifice, must be directed to Allah and to Him alone. Directing any form of worship to other than Allah (whether it is an angel, a messenger, Jesus, Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), a saint, an idol, the sun, the moon, or a tree) is considered to be a contradiction to the fundamental message of not only Islam, but of all the prophets; it is an unforgivable sin in the hereafter unless one repents before death.

The second part of the testimony means that Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is the slave and the chosen messenger of Allah. This implies that a true Muslim obeys and follows the commands of the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) as mentioned in the collections of his Hadith. One must believe in what he has said, practice his teachings and avoid what he has forbidden as the Hadith were, in fact, revelations and

inspirations conveyed to him by Allah.

As mentioned earlier, Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was sent in order to practically implement the Qur'an in his saying, deeds, legislation as well as all the other facets of life. 'Â'ishah (may Allah be pleased with her), the wife of the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him), when asked about his character, replied:

"His character was that of the *Qur'an*." (Muslim and Abu Dâwood)

Hence, to truly adhere to the second part of the shahâdah is to follow his example in all walks of life. Allah has mentioned:

{Say, [O Muhammad]: If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.} (Qur'an 3: 31)

A true Muslim must try to mold his or her life and character and emulate the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him), as he was a living example for humans to follow.

Allah has said to His Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him):

{And indeed, you are of a great moral character.} *(Qur'an 68: 4)*

Allah has also said to all people:

{There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an

excellent pattern for anyone whose hope is in Allah and the last day and [who] remembers Allah often.} *(Qur'an 33: 21)*

Upon entering the folds of Islam, all of one's previous sins are forgiven; one starts a new life of piety and righteousness since he or she, in essence, has repented from the ways and beliefs of their previous life. The Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) said to a person, who had placed the condition upon the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) in accepting Islam that Allah would forgive his sins:

"Do you not know that accepting Islam destroys all sins which come before it?" (Muslim)



One should try as much as possible to keep his or her records clean and strive to do as many good deeds as possible; the more he or she does the more he or she will be elevated in paradise.

It shall be emphasized again that accepting Islam does not mean to turn one's back on the messages of previous prophets (peace be upon them all). Indeed, it is a fulfilment of those messages. Therefore, if you are a Jew or a Christian, accepting Islam and following Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is a fulfilment of the messages which Moses and Jesus (peace be upon them) brought.[30]

However, rejecting Islam means to turn one's back not only on Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) but also to his preceding prophets (Moses and Jesus). This is actually a clear violation of their messages, which diminishes one's hope of paradise in the hereafter.

It is now up to you to decide your own future home. Wish you all the best!

30. As mentioned earlier, this important point is proven in many different works entitled 'Muhammad in the Bible'. They are available both on the Internet and in bookstores.

Conclusion

This book has clarified the status of Prophet Jesus as mentioned in the revealed Islamic sources [the Holy Qur'an and the traditions of Prophet Muhammad] as well as in the intact remnants of the Holy Bible which was revealed to Prophet Jesus.

May the light of truth shine in our minds and in our hearts. May it lead us to peace and certitude in this life and eternal bliss in the hereafter.

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APPENDIX

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INFORMATION ABOUT ISLAM

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www.islamonline.net

www.islam-qa.com

www.islamtomorrow.com

www.missionislam.com

www.themodernreligion.com

www.witness-pioneer.org

www.youngmuslims.ca

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BOOKSTORES

www.al-hidaayah.co.uk

www.dar-us-salam.com

www.iiphonline.com

www.soundvision.com



GLOSSARY

OF ISLAMIC TERMS[31*]

Da'wah	◎◎◎◎	disseminating the teachings of Islam and calling people to accept and embrace Islam
Hadith (hadeeth)	◎◎◎◎	the collected statements and actions of Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) that with the Qur'an form the basis of Islamic law
jizyah	◎◎◎◎	a tax levied on the people of the Scriptures when they are under the protection of a Muslim government.
tâghoot	◎◎◎◎◎	idols; everything evil that is worshipped besides Allah
Zakât (zakâh)	◎◎◎◎	obligatory charity: an 'alms tax' on wealth payable by Muslims and to be distributed to poor Muslims who qualify as recipients.

31.*The Arabic words are transliterated according to the conventions of the Transliteration Chart found in this book. If a word has become part of the English language (i.e., is found in a dictionary of Standard English), that spelling is used in this book and appears first in this Glossary, with the transliterated form in brackets after it.

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